<u>REMARKS</u>

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Wu. Applicant acknowledges that claims 2-9 are deemed to contain allowable subject matter. Applicant has cancelled claims 5 and 8 and has amended claims 1 and 3 to state the invention with greater precision.

The amendment to claim 1 adds subject matter from cancelled claim 5. As amended, claim 1 is patentably distinct from Wu. Wu is not seen to show a holder comprising a tubular body with an elongated through hole and a tapered surface, a bottom cap, a sliding tube with a tapered surface and multiple bores, multiple balls, a spring and a pushing bar as described in the amended claim 1. Therefore, Wu does not anticipate, teach or suggest a connector as set forth in amended claim 1 and claim 1 is now in condition for allowance. Claims 2-4, 6, 7 and 9 are dependent on the allowable amended claim 1 and are also in condition for allowance.

As a result of the foregoing, applicant submits that claims 1-4, 6, 7 and 9 are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue, which the Examiner feels would best be resolved by either a personal or a telephone interview, he is urged to contact Applicant's attorney at the exchange listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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